Low power transmitters in the country

1013. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of low power transmitters to be set up in the country by the end of 7th Five Year Plan;

(b) what are the criteria being followed for selection of these centres for such low power transmitters;

(c) the total amount earmarked for this purpose during the 7th Five Year Plan period;

(d) whether the whole country is likely to be covered by T. V. net work; and

(e) whether Government have any specific programme for the same, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) On completion of the 7th Plan scheme of Doordarshan, the total number of TV transmitters of all categories (high power, low power, very low power and transposers) would be 423, out of which the number of low power (100 W) transmitters would be 236.

(b) Depending on the availability of resources, sites/locations of the transmitters are selected with a view to extneding coverage to the maximum possible population in a phased manner, with due priority to rural, hilly, backward, tribal; remote; sensitive and border areas.

(c) The VII Plan outlay of Doordarshan includes a provision of Rs. 148.64 crores for expansion of transmission facilities in the country.

(d) and (e) On completion of the VII Plan Schemes, TV service is expected to be available to about 82.8 per cent population of the country. Provision of TV service to uncovered parts of the country would depend upon availability of resources in the future plans of TV expansion.

Production of fruits and vegetable in the country

1014. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of fruits and vegetables in the country per annum;

(b) whether Government have drawn up any programme to increase the production of Horticultural Crops in the country;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) the amount earmarked during the Seventh Five Year Plan for the development of Horticulture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No official estimates of production of fruits and vegetables are available. However, according to rough estimates, the production of fruits and vegetables was 235 and 340 lakh tonnes respectively during 1984-85.

(b) and (c) The Government has taken up a number of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing production of Horticultural crops in the country. The important schemes are given below:

(i) Improved technology for quality apple production;

(ii) Package programme on Pineaple and banana;

(iii) Establishment of Elite Progeny Orchards;

(iv) Contingency plan for increasing vegetable production in drought/flood affected districts by distribution of vegetable minikits;

(v) Package programme for development of Cashewnut;

(vi) Integrated development of spices;

(vii) Schemes of the Coconut Development Board;